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STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1941.

STANLEY.

ALEX. McKINLAY, PRINTER,

1942.

STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
for the year 1941.
(STANLEY and TANFIELD SECTIONS).

STANLEY,
 March, 1942.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to your Council my report on the Stanley and Tanfield Sections of the Stanley Urban District Council for the year 1941.

I shall first submit the figures for the whole of your area, and afterwards deal separately with those two sections for which I am responsible.

WHOLE DISTRICT. STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,658
Population (Estimated mid-1941)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46,000
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,200
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£182,369
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£673
LIVE BIRTHS—							Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	404	370	774
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	17	37
							—	—	—
							424	387	811
							—	—	—
BIRTH RATE : 17.63.									
STILL-BIRTHS—									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	13	31
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
							—	—	—
							19	14	33
							—	—	—
RATE (per 1000 total births) 39.1.									
DEATHS							...	...	...
							338	228	566

CRUDE DEATH-RATE : 12.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 Total Births
Puerperal Sepsis	1	1.15
Other Puerperal Causes	4	4.65
	—	—
	5	5.80
	—	—

Death-rate of Infants under 1 Year of Age.

All infants (per 1000 live births)...	...	87
Legitimate infants (per 1000 legitimate live births)	...	85
Illegitimate " (" " illegitimate " ")	...	135
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	82
" " Measles (all ages)	...	Nil.
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	2
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	2

The following Table compares the **Various Rates** for the Stanley Urban District with those for the County of Durham, per 1000 population :—

	County.	Stanley.
Birth-rate	17.2	17.63
Death-rate	13.6	12.3
Zymotic Death-rate	0.29	0.15
Scarlet Fever	0.00	Nil.
Diphtheria	0.08	0.06
Enteric Fever	0.00	Nil.
Measles	0.04	Nil.
Whooping Cough	0.09	0.04
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0.08	0.04
" (over 2 years)	0.04	Nil.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.63	0.54
Non-Pulmonary "	0.11	0.15
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	0.88	1.78
Influenza	0.17	0.32
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)...	70	87
Maternal Mortality Rate (" total births)	4.30	5.80

Birth-rate, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1941, for
England and Wales, and the Stanley District.

	England & Wales.	Stanley.
BIRTH-RATE	14.2	17.63
DEATH-RATES :—		
All Causes	12.9	12.3
Enteric Fever	0.0	Nil.
Smallpox	—	Nil.
Measles	0.03	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	0.00	Nil.
Whooping Cough	0.06	0.04
Diphtheria	0.07	0.06
Influenza	0.19	0.32
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	5.1	0.04
Under 1 year (per 1000 live Births)	59	87
Maternal Mortality (per 1000 Total Births)	2.23	5.80

The next Table gives the **Causes of Death** of Male and Female Residents
for the year 1941.

	Males.	Females.
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	1
Whooping Cough	1	1
Diphtheria	1	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	12	13
Non-Pulmonary „	3	4
Syphilis	3	—
Influenza	11	4
Encephalitis	1	1
Cancer	53	29
Diabetes	3	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ...	35	33
Heart Disease	54	41
Other Circulatory Diseases	15	8
Bronchitis	25	14
Pneumonia (all forms)	26	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	2
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	3	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)....	2	—
Appendicitis	1	—
Other Digestive Disorders	7	9
Nephritis	12	6
Puerperal Sepsis	—	1
Other Maternal Causes	—	4
Premature Birth	8	4
Congenital Malformation etc.	11	6
Suicide	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents	3	—
Other Violent Causes	8	3
All Other Causes	35	22
	<hr/> 338 <hr/>	<hr/> 226 <hr/>

IMMUNISATION.

In spite of such records as that of Hamilton (Ontario), population 150,000, where Immunisation stopped Diphtheria deaths completely, and even Diphtheria cases for some years, many British parents still flatly refuse to countenance it.

In England and Wales there were 65,008 Diphtheria cases in 1938 with 2,931 deaths ; in 1939, 47,341 cases with 2,133 deaths. In 1940 the cases totalled 46,281 and the deaths rose to 2,480. Doctors argue that such deaths are avoidable.

It is estimated that, out of every 100 children born in Britain, 10 will contract Diphtheria and 1 will die; but immunisation means that, out of every 100 children, 1 will contract Diphtheria, and none will die.

I estimate the child population (under 15 years) in the Stanley and Tanfield sections of your area to be 7,500. In 1941 the Diphtheria notifications, in these sections, of children under 15 were 45, and of these 15 proved to be negative.

Out of the 30 true Diphtheria cases, 5 had been immunised. There was 1 death, and that child had not received protection. These figures compare favourably with the foregoing medical estimates.

It is interesting, as a comparison, to look at the number of notifications of Diphtheria (under 15 years) in the 6 years preceding the introduction of Immunisation in these two sections:—

1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
<hr/> 170 <hr/>	<hr/> 130 <hr/>	<hr/> 165 <hr/>	<hr/> 193 <hr/>	<hr/> 212 <hr/>	<hr/> 164 <hr/>

At the end of 1941, 3,987 children were completely protected—617 under 5 years, and 3,370....5 to 15 years. This represents 53% of the child population, but this figure will be greatly increased before the end of the present year. Total protection of the district cannot be expected, but it is to be hoped that parents will co-operate to make the percentage as high as possible.

The improvement in health, as well as the financial saving, warrants the expenditure incurred in the attempt to safeguard the child population.

WATER.

Last year the water supply was adequate and there were no complaints about its quality.

SEWERAGE.

The war holds up the work on the approved schemes for the new sewage disposal works to deal with the sewage from North Stanley, South Tanfield, Annfield Plain and Craghead.

With the limited amount of material available, improvements and repairs have been effected at the existing works to enable them to function until the new works can take over.

Other Sewage works are giving satisfactory service.

SCHOOLS.

It was not necessary to close any of the schools during the year on account of infectious disease.

STANLEY SECTION.

As the main industry of the district—Coal-mining—was kept as busy as possible during the year, the amount spent on able-bodied relief by the Public Assistance Committee showed a further reduction. The cost in 1937 was £2,429, in 1938 £728, in 1939 £648, in 1940 £548, and in 1941 £296.

Last year the total payments were: Ordinary Relief £22,989; Able-bodied Relief £296—a total of £23,285.

The figures for the past 10 years are appended for comparison :—

1941	.....	£23,285 (increased population)
1940	.....	£37,134 (" ")
1939	.....	£43,960 (" ")
1938	.....	£42,922 (" ")
1937	.....	£41,781 (" " for $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year)
1936	.....	£41,131
1935	.....	£38,460
1934	.....	£36,508
1933	.....	£35,746
1932	.....	£34,658

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The good work of the Stanley and District Nursing Association was continued throughout the year, and the following is a summary of the work done :—

	Cases Attended.	Visits paid.
Midwifery	241	4,271
Maternity	68	1,157
Medical	114	3,182
Surgical	164	3,326
	<hr/> 587	<hr/> 11,936

Nurses employed : 1 General, 4 Nurse Midwives.

Hospitals.

There was no change in the accommodation provided during the year.

Ambulance Facilities.

There was no change in 1941.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The County Council provides Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at Stanley and South Moor, a member of the County Medical Staff being present each day on which they are open. The days are as follows :

STANLEY—MONDAY. All day with Ultra Violet Ray Clinic in the afternoon.

THURSDAY. All day, with Ante-Natal Clinic in the morning, and Ultra Violet Ray Clinic in the afternoon.

A Dental Clinic is held on Thursday morning every Fourth week.

SOUTH MOOR—WEDNESDAY, on alternate weeks, Ante-Natal Clinic in the afternoon.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following gives a **Summary of Cases notified**, and compares 1941 with the 9 Preceding Years.

Disease.	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932
Diphtheria	46	112	108	138	117	147	131	178	155	60
Erysipelas	15	11	16	22	16	14	17	24	16	19
Scarlet Fever ...	61	57	41	94	43	47	62	225	372	114
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	1	1	3	3	7	7	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	4	7	3	1	5	3	6	5	8	8
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	6	3	4	5	1	7	1	2	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	22	27	23	20	25	13	15	11	19	15
Other Tuberculous Diseases	13	11	25	26	17	13	9	14	19	17
Pneumonia	39	43	24	29	32	27	17	18	37	17
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	19	5	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	1
Dysentery	2	7	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles	131	434	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	33	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	387	730	251	335	263	268	274	489	629	263

The next Table gives the **Age Period, etc.**, of cases notified in 1941.

Disease.	Under 1 Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and Over	Total	Hospital
Scarlet Fever....	1	3	1	5	8	29	13	1	—	—	—	—	61	49
Diphtheria	—	1	2	2	6	9	11	5	7	1	2	—	46	46
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1
Pneumonia	3	3	2	1	—	5	1	4	6	6	6	2	39	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Measles	5	12	11	18	14	67	3	—	—	—	1	—	131	—
Whooping Cough	2	3	8	5	5	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	8	4	15	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	1	—	—	1	—	4	2	5	—	4	—	19	19
Totals													352	125

TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female	Male.	Female	Male.	Female	Male.	Female.
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 Years	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—
5—15 „	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
15—25 „	3	4	2	2	3	2	1	—
25—35 „	2	1	—	2	1	—	—	1
35—45 „	3	2	—	1	1	3	—	1
45—55 „	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65 „	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	13	9	4	9	7	6	2	2

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	Cases			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At home	In Hospital				
1	16/1/41	—	Yes	Yes	—	—	—
2	6/2/41	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—
3	29/4/41	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—
4	18/10/41	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—

Diphtheria.

The total number of notifications, —46— is the lowest yearly figure of which I have record. Of the 46 cases. 31 were under 15 years of age. There was 1 death and this child had not been immunised.

Scarlet Fever.

There was an increase of 4 in the number of cases reported—61 as compared with 57 in 1940—The disease was of a mild type, and there were no deaths

Enteric Fever.

No cases were reported in 1941.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There was a reduction of 5 in the number of cases notified, being 22 as against 27 in the previous year.

There were 13 deaths, as compared with 9 in 1940. All the deaths occurring in the area had been notified.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The notifications were 13 last year as against 11 in 1940. There were 4 deaths.

Pneumonia.

Though there was a reduction of 4 on the total of 1940—39 as against 43—the number is still high. 5 Patients were removed to Hospital.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

There is a big increase in the notifications of this disease in the last 2 years. There were 2 cases in 1935, and then no more until 1940 when 5 were reported. Last year there were 19 cases ; all were removed to Hospital, where 5 proved to be negative.

Measles.

Though present each month, Measles was not as prevalent as in 1940—131 cases as against 434.—There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

There were 33 cases reported as against 10 in 1940.

Influenza.

There were several cases in the early part of the year, but the disease did not assume epidemic form.

LABORATORY WORK

Under arrangements made between the Durham County Council and the College of Medicine, Newcastle, 162 specimens were sent from 5 Enteric Fever, 86 Tuberculosis, 69 Diphtheria, 1 Dysentery and 1 Hæmolytic Streptococci suspects. Of this number 9 Tuberculosis, and 10 Diphtheria, proved to be positive.

Your Council maintains an adequate supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin for distribution to medical practitioners in the area.

So far no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 62.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 66.

No action was taken in 1941 in any of the above.

TANFIELD SECTION.

The payments made by the Public Assistance Committee both for Ordinary and Able-bodied Relief, show a decrease in comparison with the figures for the preceding year.

The totals for 1941 were: Ordinary Relief £5,421; Able-bodied Relief £42; a total of £5,463.

For comparison I append the totals for the last 10 years:—

1941	—	—	£5,463.
1940	—	—	£9,540.
1939	—	—	£10,753.
1938	—	—	£9,884.
1937	—	—	£8,533.
1936	—	—	£9,436.
1935	—	—	£9,831.
1934	—	—	£9,150.
1933	—	—	£7,908.
1932	—	—	£7,115.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

There are two Nursing Associations in the Section, one for each Ward, and their work during 1941 may be summarised thus:

North Ward.

			Cases attended.	Visits paid.
Midwifery	...	...	51	649
Maternity	....	....	8	138
Medical	...	...	61	1,550
Surgical	...	...	85	1,010
			<hr/> 205	<hr/> 3,347
			—	—

2 Queen's Nurses are employed.

South Ward.

Medical...	....	...	47	1,702
Surgical	....	....	95	1,911
			<hr/> 142	<hr/> 3,613
			—	—

1 Queen's Nurse is employed.

Hospital Accommodation.

This remained unchanged during the year.

Ambulance Facilities.

There was no alteration in 1941.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The County Council provides Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at Burnopfield and Tanfield Lea, a member of the County Medical Staff being present on each day on which they are open. The days are as follows:

Burnopfield Centre—Alternate Fridays.

Tanfield Lea Centre—Alternate Tuesdays, with Ante-Natal Clinic every 4 weeks, in the afternoon.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives a summary of cases notified, and compares 1941 with the 9 preceding years :

Disease.	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932
Diphtheria	21	27	30	110	68	51	103	83	47	19
Erysipelas	5	12	4	6	4	7	10	9	11	7
Scarlet Fever	26	28	19	40	53	80	72	138	112	26
Enteric Fever	—	1	—	1	—	—	8	2	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	—	2	1	1	2	2	2	—	2	4
Puerperal Fever.....	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	3	2	—	—	2	1	3	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .	8	4	6	9	3	7	3	6	11	4
Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	3	4	8	7	4	9	8	7	11
Pneumonia	17	19	5	8	17	12	14	18	18	24
Cerebro Spinal Fever	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
Dysentery	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles	67	292	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	25	35	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	184	427	75	185	156	163	223	266	214	98

The next table gives the Age Period, etc., for cases notified in 1941 .—

Disease.	Under 1 Year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over	Total	Hospital
Scarlet Fever	—	—	3	6	4	8	2	—	3	—	—	—	26	26
Diphtheria	—	1	—	4	2	4	3	5	1	—	1	—	21	21
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia	—	—	2	—	—	3	1	3	2	1	5	—	17	—
Dysentery	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Measles	2	10	9	5	9	30	2	—	—	—	—	—	67	—
Whooping Cough	1	5	7	4	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	5	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	—	—	1	2	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	8	8
Totals													172	59

TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 Years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 „	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
25—35 „	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
35—45 „	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—55 „	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 „	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	4	2	2	—	3	—	—

Diphtheria.

The number of cases again showed a decrease, being 6 less than the previous year.

Out of the total of 21 cases reported, 14 were of child age (under 15 years) and of these 14, 8 proved to be negative, making 6 true Diphtheria cases of this age during the year. 1 child had been immunised. There were no deaths.

Scarlet Fever.

The notifications showed a slight decrease. The disease was of a mild type and there were no deaths.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

This disease is showing an increase in the cases reported, for having been free of it for 6 years. a case was notified in 1940, and 8 cases last year. 1 case was negative.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

8 cases were reported as against 4 in 1940, and 6 in 1939. There were 3 deaths.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There were 4 cases last year as compared with 3 in 1940, and 4 in 1939. There were no deaths.

Measles.

Was not as prevalent as in 1940, there being 67 cases as against 292. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

Again there was a reduction, 25 cases as compared with 35 in 1940.

LABORATORY WORK.

Under arrangements made between the Durham County Council and the College of Medicine, Newcastle, 21 specimens were sent from 12 Diphtheria, and 9 Tuberculosis suspects.. Of this number 1 Diphtheria proved to be positive.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 62.****PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 66.**

No action was taken in any of the above during the past year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

E. BENSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
STANLEY.

STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
ANNFIELD PLAIN AREA.

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the Year 1941.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your information and consideration my Annual Report upon the Health of the Annfield Plain Section of your Urban District for the year 1941.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. M. MORISON, D.P.H.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The social and health conditions of the Annfield Plain Area of your District has been satisfactory, considering the anxieties regarding the war, and the restrictions on food. It is, however, satisfactory to state, that up to the present, at any-rate, the health of the community has not suffered. With the exception of an epidemic of Measles, of an exceptionally mild form, and six cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever, there was nothing more of note during the year. We must, however, be on the alert for any fresh outbreak of disease.

Epidemics of disease are one of the many evils which follow in the wake of a shifting population, the result of war, as well as the risk of imported contagions from foreign countries. We did not escape after the last war.

Cost of Relief.

Statement of Relief disbursed in the Annfield Plain Area for:—

		1932	1938	1939	1940	1941
Ordinary .....	.....	£16,837/19/1	£20,761/14/0	£20,600/12/0	£13,444/13/1	£11,855/11/3
Unemployed .....	.....	£4,913/14/0	£236/5/6	£142/17/0	£168/3/2	£89/12/0
		£21,751/13/1	£20,997/19/6	£20,743/9/0	£13,612/16/3	£11,945/3/3

There is a great reduction in the unemployed relief as compared with 1932. Ordinary relief is, however, still on the high side in a district where everyone fit to work is employed, or could be employed, in civil or military work.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		M		F	} Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident pop- ulation 15.66
Live Births {	Legitimate	218=	106	112	
	Illegitimate	8=	7	1	
Total		226	113	113	
Stillbirths		7=	2	5	} Rate per 1000 total (live births and stillbirths 25.64
Deaths		167=	104	63	
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth					} from sepsis 0 from other causes 0
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births					75.22
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births					78.60
Deaths from Measles (all ages)					0
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)					0
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)					0
,, Cancer (all ages)					17

Causes of Death.										Males	Females
	All Causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	104	63
1	Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	1
2	Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	0
3	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	0
4	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	5
5	Other Tubercular Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	1
6	Cancer, malignant disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	6
7	Diabetes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	1
8	Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	11
9	Heart disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	11
10	Other circulatory diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	2
11	Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	4
12	Pneumonia (all forms)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	3
13	Peptic ulcer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	0
14	Other Digestive disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	0
15	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	0
16	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	4
17	Senility	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	6
18	Other Violence	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4
19	Other defined diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	4
20	Ill-defined or unknown diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	0

The following statement gives the Vital Statistics for the County as compared with those of the Annfield Plain Area :—

										County.	Annfield Plain Area.
										(per 1,000 population)	
Birth-rate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17.2	15.66
Death-rate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13.6	11.13
Zymotic death-rate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.29	0.06
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.00	nil.
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.08	0.06
Enteric Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.00	nil.
Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.04	nil.
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.09	nil.
Diarrhœa (under 2)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.08	nil.
Phthisis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.63	0.60
Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.17	0.006
Acute Respiratory diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.88	1.80
Infantile Mortality-rate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70 per 1000 births	75.22
Maternal Mortality-rate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.30	nil.

The general Death Rate is below the county average, the Birth Rate is also less, but the Infant Mortality Rate is higher than that of the county. Other rates are satisfactory.

The estimated population of the Annfield Plain portion of the Stanley District is 15,000.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REPORTED DURING THE YEAR 1941.

Disease										Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	6	4
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	30	2
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	0	0
Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	3	0
Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	1	18
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	0
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33	33	0
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	0	0
Total										176	75	24

There are two more Diphtheria cases than the previous year, but a big reduction as compared with several years past, and particularly since immunisation has been introduced. Deaths under **Pneumonia** includes all forms of the disease.

ANALYSIS OF THE TOTAL CASES UNDER ALL GROUPS, 1941

Disease.	Total	Under 1 year	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45 & Over
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	6	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	—
Diphtheria	38	2	—	1	1	5	13	4	4	7	1
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	20	1	—	1	2	—	4	2	3	2	5
Scarlet Fever	33	—	—	5	2	5	19	—	—	2	—
Measles	64	6	8	2	11	18	16	2	—	1	—
Whooping Cough	15	2	2	1	1	3	6	—	—	—	—
Total	181	11	11	11	17	31	59	8	8	16	9

TUBERCULOSIS, 1941

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15	2	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
25	1	2	.....	1	2	1	1	.....
35	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
45	0	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
55	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
65	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	6	7	3	3	2	1	2	1
	13		6		3		3	

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision Un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified.	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
3	0	3	3	0	0	0

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following table gives particulars of the specimens sent in by medical practitioners in the district for examination during the year, in accordance with the arrangement made between the County Council and the King's College of Medicine.

	Number of Specimens Submitted	RESULTS.		
		Positive.	Negative.	Inconclusive
Enteric	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	26	3	23	0
Phthisis (sputum)	35	3	32	0
Totals	61	6	55	0

Bacteriological examination of blood, sputum and excretions of patients is of the greatest value in clearing up the diagnosis of doubtful cases of certain infectious diseases.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is supplied to practitioners in the area, if and when application is made to the Medical Officer of Health.

NUMBER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED PER MONTH FOR 1941

	Total	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Cer. Spinal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Tuberculosis	Measles	Whooping Cough
January	17	4	1	0	2	1	1	0	4	4	0
February	16	0	2	0	3	1	0	0	2	6	2
March	12	4	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	3	0
April	19	4	6	1	0	0	0	0	6	2	0
May	26	4	8	0	6	0	0	0	1	1	6
June	23	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	17	1
July	21	0	7	0	0	0	1	1	0	7	5
August	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	0
September	15	4	3	0	3	0	0	0	1	3	1
October	18	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	11	0
November.....	15	2	4	0	2	0	1	2	2	2	0
December	16	4	3	1	0	0	1	0	2	5	0
Total	204	33	38	3	20	2	6	3	20	64	15

From 1st January to 30th June 113 }
From 1st July to 31st December 91 } 204

Thirty-eight cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, eight of these, however, were **negative** when bacteriologically examined, leaving thirty **positive**.

IMMUNISATION.

In 1936, immunisation was first offered free of cost to children under eight years of age in the Annfield Plain Section of your Urban Area, and again in 1939. On these occasions only one injection of .5cc's. was given. In 1941 free immunisation was again offered to the children and the parents responded very encouragingly to the offer. With the consent of the Education Authority, the children were immunised in the various schools, every help being given by the teaching staff. The amount of serum injected in 1941 was .3cc's, the second a month after the first. So far as known there was little disturbance in the health of the children, and at the time of injection the children were more amused than frightened. The age in 1941 was extended to fifteen years. At least 1,700 in all were immunised.

It would be, perhaps, too soon to pronounce a dogmatic opinion on the lasting result of the scheme in your district, although reports from other districts where the scheme was put into operation much earlier, is eminently satisfactory.

Up to the present, the percentage of those immunised who contracted Diphtheria is .7, a fact which should encourage the continuance of immunising the children periodically.

Those who have not taken advantage of the scheme can still have it done free by making application to the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Council Offices, Tantobie.

The following figures are informative re Diphtheria.

1934	number notified	180
1935	„	91
1936	„	121
1937	„	141
1938	„	147
1939	„	58
1940	„	27
1941	„	30

OAT AND BARLEY MEAL.

Children are the principle assets of the nation, and their future mental and physical health and strength, are largely determined by their nourishment during the earlier years of their lives. After that period nothing can make amends for their previous lack of mental and physical stamina. Recent investigations into the nutritive value of various cereals, vegetables and piscatorial substances, has provided us with many concentrated foods in palatable forms ; and reintroduced others, used empirically by our ancestors, long overlooked or neglected, with the result that the health of the country, even under stress and strain of war, is remarkably healthy.

One wonders, however, why cereals like Barley and Oats (in the search for valuable and nutritive foods) have not been recommended and stressed more by Dietarians. Baked into bread or made into porridge Barley and Oatmeal are both palatable and nourishing—an ideal food for man or

beast. Dr. Johnson, in his dictionary, defines Oats as food for men in Scotland, and horses in England. The obvious retort is " and where could you find **such** men and **such** horses ? "

These cereals contain all the elements necessary to sustain life, are richer in flesh and bone-forming properties, and heat producing-substances than all the other cereals. From another angle they are more economical than most foods.

From a recent report upon the dental condition of the school children of the country it was found that where oaten foods entered largely into the diet of the children, there was very much less decay in the teeth. There are numerous recipes for the preparation of Barley and Oat cakes and bread, including porridge, published in the magazines and newspapers in these days. The Greeks were renowned for their culture in ancient times, also for their courage and endurance, as they are to-day. No country in the world has produced such a galaxy of renowned people as Athens. One of their staple foods was Barley bread or paste, onions, beans, lentils and fish from the sea. Aristophanos refers to the Athenian public as " bean-fed, surly Demos."

An old author writing in 1653 speaks of Oatmeal as a food in **continuous family use in England**. He says the virtues of Oatmeal foods of various kinds are beyond all reckoning, " very pleasant to the taste and much esteemed." He also refers to " Haggas " or " Haggus," its ingredients and its preparation with oatmeal, " of whose goodness it is vain to boast." A haggis, we know, however much despised by some people, is a most satisfying and nourishing article of food, and is, according to author quoted, not exclusively a Scottish " preserve."

We should consider seriously restoring to its ancient place on the menu of an Englishman's table these articles of food adumbrated on by " an old Author," in 1663.

" For makin' flesh and building banes,
There ne'er was siccan food for weans,
It knits their muscles steeve as stanes and teuch as brasses ;
Fills hooses fu' o' lads wi' brains an' rosy lasses."

W. M. MORISON, D.P.H. and M.O.H. for
Annfield Plain Section of the Stanley U.D.C.

STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the Year 1941.

STAFF :—

Chief Sanitary Inspector	.....	K. Elliott, M.S.I.A., C.R.SAN.I., Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.
District Inspectors	.....	S. L. Hetherington, M.S.I.A., C.R.SAN.I., Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector. J. Walker, M.S.I.A., C.R.SAN.I., Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

I herewith submit the Annual Report for work done in the Sanitary Department during the Year :

HOUSING ACTS :

Repairs and Improvements : Repair of house property has been fairly well maintained considering the shortage of certain materials during the present war emergency.

Slum Clearance : All building programmes have unfortunately been abandoned during the war with the result that certain houses scheduled for demolition have become uninhabitable. The tenants have been re-housed where possible in Council houses and otherwise in private dwellings.

Overcrowding : There is still considerable overcrowding in the area and the position has been aggravated by the influx of evacuees from blitzed towns and also, by the compulsory return of miners to local collieries.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS.

The following is a summary of notices served under the various headings :—

	No. of Nuisances or defects dealt with by Informal Notices.	No. of Nuisances or defects dealt with by Formal Notices by Order of the Council.	No. of Nuisances or defects abated or remedied after service of Notices.
Dwelling-houses } Foul Conditions	1	—	1
and Schools } Structural Defects	402	114	155
Bakehouses	1	—	1
Ashpits and Privies	39	—	32
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	2	—	2
Water-closets	6	—	6
House Drainage	29	—	29
Water Supply	2	—	2
Ashbins	50	—	40
TOTALS	532	114	268

ANALYSIS OF INSPECTIONS, 1941.

Housing Defects	—Inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	676
	—Re-Inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,194
	—Overcrowding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Defective Drains	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	109
Defective Water-closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	49
Defective Ash-pits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46
Defective Paving	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Foul Conditions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
Lodging Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
Slaughter Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	463
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	224
Deposits of Refuse	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Factories and Workshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64
Animals Improperly Kept	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Offensive Trades	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Infectious Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	326
Privy Conversions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Refuse Collection	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
Appointments	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	150
Food Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	118
Pigsties	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Water Supply	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
TOTAL OF INSPECTIONS								3,665

SANITARY CONVENIENCES :

During the year 1 privy was converted into a water-closet.

The number of privies converted into water-closets since 1931 is as follows :—

1931	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	151
1932	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	155
1933	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,664 (Includes Scheme for 1,460).
1934	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250
1935	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	142
1936	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	230
1937	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	103
1938	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
1939	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	471 (Part Scheme for 1,295.)
1940	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
1941	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
TOTAL						3,217

The following types of conveniences are existing in the area :—

Water-closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,927
Privies	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,414
Dry Ashpits	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,915
Ashbins	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,531

The general scheme for the conversion of privies has been abandoned until after the war.

REFUSE COLLECTION :

House refuse is collected from 6,329 ashpits weekly, and 6,531 ashbins twice weekly, together with trade refuse from 108 shops, etc., necessitating a total of 19,499 visits each week.

The estimated amount of refuse is approximately 40,000 tons per annum.

The refuse is abnormally heavy and peculiar to a colliery district where the coal, supplied free to the miners, besides being small and dusty contains a certain amount of stone.

The refuse has to be transported over steep gradients and each vehicle, with a capacity of 8 cubic yards, contains at least 3 tons nett of refuse, which represents the contents from an average of 40 ashpits or correspondingly 80 ashbins.

The total annual cost of collection and disposal for the year was £10,350. The weighty refuse gives a low rate of 5/2d. per ton and an equivalent rate in the pound of 15d. The average weight of refuse per 1,000 population per day is 43 cwts., and the nett cost per 1,000 population is £200.

SALVAGE.

The house to house salvage canvass was continued during the year by members of the ladies' committees in the seventeen groups working in the area.

To augment the collection of salvage, a trailer was fitted to each refuse vehicle and visits were made weekly and in the majority of cases bi-weekly to each house throughout the district.

The following articles of salvage were collected and sold during the year :—

225 Tons .....	.....	Paper.
115 Tons .....	.....	Metals
1,200 Dozen	.....	Bottles and Jars.
51 Cwt. ....	.....	Rags.
40 Cwt. ....	.....	Bones.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS.

There is one Common Lodging House situated at Flint Hill, Dipton, which is regularly inspected.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS :

During the year 9 Council and 35 private houses were found to be infested with bed bugs. The Council houses were disinfested by the Local Authority and the private houses by the occupiers.

The method of disinfestation was by spraying with insecticides followed by fumigation. Where necessary the infested woodwork—such as picture-rails and skirting boards—was removed and destroyed. The occupiers were then instructed to thoroughly cleanse the houses by washing down with soap and water. Frequent inspections were made and advice given to the occupiers until the premises were found to be free from vermin.

MILK SUPPLY :

The following were on the Register at the end of the year :—

49 Cowkeepers.
85 Dairies.
84 Retail Purveyors of Milk.
1 Pasteurised (Licence).
14 Accredited Producers.
51 Retail Purveyors of Milk (Bottled).

All the Cowsheds and Dairies were frequently inspected. The general hygiene in the byres and dairies was well maintained during the year.

MILK SAMPLES.

95 Samples of Ordinary Milk and 12 Samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted for bacteriological examination.

2 Samples of Pasteurised Milk and 16 of Ordinary Milk were found to be below the required standard and the remainder were of a much higher standard than is required for Accredited Milk.

The bulk supply of accommodation milk delivered to the local pasteurisation dairy was found to be generally unsatisfactory and the management changed the supplies several times in an endeavour to improve the standard of cleanliness. The position still remains unsatisfactory and further efforts will have to be made in order that this supply can be considered fit for human consumption.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS :

Owing to the war emergency and the control of foodstuffs, the slaughter of animals has been done outside the district at a central depot.

The meat is brought into three Distribution Depots and inspected prior to allocation to the butchers.

During the year the following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned :

158 tins of Milk.
355 lbs. of Beef.
2 tins of Beans.
2 tins of Steak.
21½ lbs. of Meat and Fish Rolls.
39 lbs. of Meat Loaf.
21 lbs. of Beef Sausage.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks for the consideration and support of the Council and members of the Staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

K. ELLIOTT,

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

